

C. Amendments to the Claims

The following is a complete listing of all claims (including claims being currently amended as well as claims not being amended). The status of each claim is indicated in a parenthetical expression after the claim number.

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

9. (Amended) A method for dismounting ~~SMB~~ plugs from a printed circuit board, wherein each of the ~~SMB~~ plugs comprises a main body and a wire exit extending approximately 45 degrees from the main body, the method comprising:

rotating a plurality of first ~~SMB~~ plug plugs in a two dimensional array so its each first plug's wire exit does not interfere with a second ~~SMB~~ plug in the two dimensional array; and unplugging the second ~~SMB~~ plug from the printed circuit board without affecting any of the first plugs.

Claims 10-11(canceled).

12. (Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

rotating a third ~~SMB~~ plug so its wire exit does not interfere with a fourth ~~SMB~~ plug yet to be plugged in; and

plugging in the fourth ~~SMB~~ plug on the printed circuit board.

13. (Amended) A connector assembly, comprising:

a printed circuit board;

a plurality of identical straight ~~SMB~~ jacks mounted to the printed circuit in at least one row and at least one column;

a plurality of identical angled ~~SMB~~ plugs mounted to said plurality of straight ~~SMB~~ jacks to form a two dimensional array, each of the angled ~~SMB~~ plugs comprising:

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a tubular main body along a first axis, the main body comprising a chamfered end surface and a snap-on coupling mechanism for connecting the SMB plug to a SMB jack;

a tubular wire exit extending from the main body along a second axis, the second axis being parallel to the chamfered end surface and approximately at a selected angle from the first axis, the tubular wire exit having a second diameter C that is a smaller percentage of a pitch P than a first diameter B of the tubular main body, wherein pitch P is smaller of a pitch Px along the row and a pitch Py along the column;

wherein each of the angled SMB plugs can independently rotate without interfering with other angled SMB plugs in ~~a same column~~ the two dimensional array.

14. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 13 wherein the selected angle is approximately forty five degrees (45°).

Please add the following new claims.

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15. (New) The angled plug of Claim 13, wherein the plug conforms to SMB.

16. (New) The connector assembly of Claim 13, wherein:
the first diameter B is at most 89 percent of pitch P.

17. (New) The connector assembly of Claim 16, wherein:
the second diameter C is at most 59 percent of pitch P.

18. (New) The connector assembly of Claim 13 wherein the selected angle is between 25° and 75°.

19. (New) The connector assembly of Claim 13 wherein the selected angle is 45°.

20. (New) The connector assembly of Claim 13 wherein the two dimensional array has equally spaced rows and columns.

21. (New) A method for mounting and dismounting plugs to and from a printed circuit board, the method comprising:

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mounting said plugs to a plurality jacks arranged on the printed circuit board to form a two dimensional array having a pitch P, wherein each plug being mounted comprises a main body and a wire exit, each wire exit extending approximately 45 degrees from the main body, each plug comprising (a) a tubular main body of a first diameter B that is approximately 89 percent of pitch P and (b) a tubular wire exit extending from the main body, the tubular wire exit having a second diameter C that is approximately 59 percent of pitch P, whereby each plug can independently rotate by at least 90° to the left or right without interfering with adjacent plugs;

rotating in different directions, a plurality of first plugs mounted on the jacks, thereby to make room for access to a second plug; and

unplugging the second plug from a jack without affecting any of the first plugs.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

rotating a third plug so its wire exit will not interfere with a fourth plug yet to be plugged in; and

plugging in the fourth plug.